

# THE GYROLOG



THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON  
— EDMONTON — ALBERTA

February 24, 1987

## NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, March 3, 1987, Mayfair Golf and Country Club at 12.15 p.m..

## COMING EVENTS

1. The regular meeting of the Edmonton Gyrettes will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 1987, Mayfair Golf and Country Club at 8.00 p.m. A speaker from the Alberta Cultural and Visual Arts Council will give a talk on Enjoying Life Through Art.
2. The Executive and Directors will meet on Tuesday, March 10, 1987, 7.30 p.m., at the home of President Al McClure, 5<sup>5</sup> Butterfield Crescent, St. Albert, Alberta.
3. The International District VIII Interim Meeting will be held on March 15 through 18, 1987 at Radium Hot Springs Lodge, Radium, B.C.

## BIRTHDAYS

Don Agnew	February 21	Bill Agnew	February 22
Stan Smith	February 24	John Pedden	March 2
Henry W. Longfellow		February 27	

"Life is real! Life is earnest!  
And the grave is not its goal;  
Dust thou art, to dust returneth  
Was not spoken of the soul." - H.W.L.

## SECOND POSTING

Ronald Ewoniak, Chartered (Deloitte, Haskins, and Sells)  
133 Laurier Drive Accountant

T5R 5P8

Proposed by: Marty Larson Seconded by: Roger Russell

## HOCKEY SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS

Game No. 14, February 14, 1987

\$25.00 - Chris Walberg, 1472; Tiana Arlidge, 1608; Lois Hill, 1492;  
Marg. Ogilvie, 1628.

Game No. 15, February 21, 1987

\$10.00 - Ray Landin, 1475; Merrill Morstad, 1555.

\$15.00 - Larry Heron, 1516; Roger Lougheed, 1596.

\$25.00 - Roy Bennett, 1530; Joam McDonald, 1609; Bob Kerrison.

THIS WEEK (19)

Roger Russell introduced his guest, Jeff Edmonds.

The following motions were regularly moved and seconded:

1. That a donation of \$100.00 from the Benevolent Fund be made to the International Gyro Memorial Fund to honor the memory of Nelles W. Buchanan. Carried.
2. That a donation of \$200.00 from the Benevolent Fund be made to the Rick Hansen Man in Motion Fund when he appears in Edmonton. Carried.
3. Moved by Roger Russell and seconded by Neil Sheidow, that the Annual Assessment be \$250.00 or \$62.50 per quarter and that each Luncheon Cost be \$5.00 for those in attendance, effective April 1, 1987. Carried.

What the above motion means is that each member of the Edmonton Gyro Club will be assessed \$110.00 per annum as partial pre-payment of the Luncheon Cost. Each Luncheon Cost will be discounted by \$4.50 for each meeting attended by the member. Each member will be invoiced \$110.00 on a quarterly basis at the same time as the Dues are billed. The quarterly Dues will remain  
(over).

at \$35.00 for the present and the quarterly meal prepayment will be \$27.50 for a total of \$62.50

Bill Agnew introduced the speaker, John Stroppa, who grew up in Winnipeg where he took his public and high school education. Following graduation from high school he was employed by the Imperial Oil Company for some 37 years, retiring in 1985.

During his more youthful years John had better than a nodding acquaintance with Canadian football, playing all the way from the high school level to the professional level with the C.F.L. Winnipeg Blue Bombers. Following his retirement as an active player he joined the C.F.L. officiating staff and of late years he has continued in the role of a supervising official covering games in Calgary and Edmonton.

To add realism to his talk John came garbed in his referee's uniform, wearing the zebra shirt, the baseball style cap, a whistle dangling about his neck, and a blaze orange flag stuffed in his hip pocket.

He related some of the highlights of his professional career, one of which was being selected as C.F.L. Rookie of the Year in 1949. He played in the infamous Grey Cup "Mud Bowl" in Toronto in 1950. Some of the well-known players with whom he shared experiences included Indian Jack Jacobs, a long ball thrower, and two tremendous linemen, Buddy Tinsley and Bear Huffman. As a referee his experiences were not always as rewarding as those he had as a player. John stated that it is well-known principle that the players and coaches can better call a game than the appointed officials.

He illustrated this with a cardboard cut-out of a referee that had been pinned to his office door the morning after a game in which a coach blew his stack in the presence of newspaper reporters about the officiating in a game that had taken place the previous night. On either side of the effigy was a ballot, <sup>one</sup> side supporting the coach and the other side the officials. There were a few names for the coach - perhaps half a dozen. But for the officials a long list of names. However on closer inspection this list appeared suspect. It contained the same name repeated ad infinitum - that of John Stroppa. Such is the life of all referees!

Merrill Morstad thanked the speaker on behalf of the Club and giving him the benefit of the doubt observed that John Stroppa was probably no different from most officials and quite likely better than many. He also presented John with a vinyl folder of stationery. This latter is not to be construed as a bribe.

Ernie Siegel won the draw.

As I shall be out of town for the next two weeks I can probably get away with the following:

The trusting citizens of an Indiana town found out what happens if you elect a retired football referee to the post of police commissioner. The very day he assumed office he arrested the community's outstanding strip-teaser. His charge: her back was illegally in motion.

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